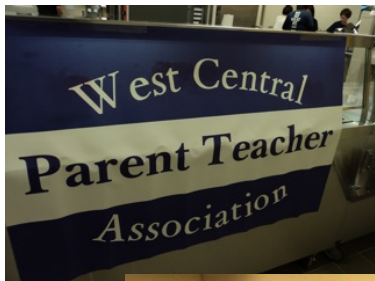


Hartford Elementary



December 2011 - Volume 10: Issue 4

Donuts for Dads



We had another great turn out for Donuts for Dads! Thanks to the PTA for sponsoring and for the kitchen and teaching staff for frosting and serving the donuts!

December Events:

- Tuesday, December 6th - PTA Meeting @ 7:00 HS Library
- Friday, December 9th - Giving Tree gifts due
- Monday, December 12th - School Board Meeting
- Tuesday, December 13th - Bookmobile
- Tuesday, December 13th - Tyler Tuesday
- Wednesday, December 14th - Early Dismissal
- Friday, December 16th - Trojan Buck Store
- Wednesday, December 21st - Movie & Christmas Parties
- Wednesday, December 21st - Christmas Break begins @ 3:30



- Tuesday, January 3rd - School Resumes

The November Birthday Bash

The Hartford Elementary November Birthday Bash was held on Friday, November 4th. Students listened to Principal Tyler read Happy Birthday to You! by Dr. Seuss. They also received a birthday card, pencil, Trojan Buck and fruit snack. Happy Birthday to all the November birthdays!



Kindergarten November Birthday

Garry (11-21)



First Grade November Birthdays

Back Row: Jenna (11- 18), Lexis (11-11), Keira (11-16), Dawson (11-5), and Chase (11-26)
Front Row: Logan (11-10), Molli (11-17), Hannah (11-19), Morgan (11-27) and Olivia (11-20)



Second Grade November Birthdays

Jacob (11-16) Ryland (11-19), Braydon (11-15), and Melissa (11-11)

**TYLER TUESDAY
DECEMBER 13TH
11:00 AM
FOR DECEMBER
BIRTHDAYS!**

**CALL PAM @ 528-3215 TO
REGISTER**

Save the Dates!

If you have a child who will turn five by September 1st, 2012, please put these dates on your calendar.

Kindergarten Registration

Please call 528-3215 (press 0) to register your child and sign up for a screening time by Friday, February 3rd.

Kindergarten Screening Days

Tuesday, March 27th @ Humboldt Elementary 4:00 - 8:00 pm

Thursday, March 29th @ Hartford Elementary 8:00 am - 8:00 pm

Because we need the kindergarten teachers to administer the screening, there will be NO Kindergarten classes on Thursday, March 29th and Friday, March 30th. Parents of current kindergarten students will need to make other arrangements for their child on those dates.

Veterans' Day Program

Our thanks to Tom Mitchell for sharing his experiences at our program. Also, thanks to all the elementary and high school groups who sang patriotic songs, and to our Hartford American Legion for teaching us about the flag.



(Left) The Hartford American Legion presents the colors.

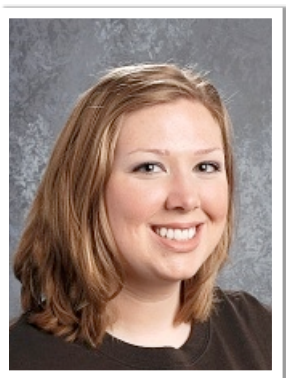


(Right) Tom Mitchell speaks to the students about his time in Iraq.

The Giving Tree

If you've never read the book "The Giving Tree" with your child, you should. It is a great story. In keeping with the Giving Tree theme, we are again having our Giving Tree in our foyer. It is our Christmas tree that has the ages and wishes of students from our district who need a helping hand this Christmas season. If you are in need of assistance for your child this season, please call Pam or me at 528-3215 and we can put student information (not names) on our tags. We keep the names and families confidential. If you are able to help this Christmas season, please take a tag (or two) and purchase what is on the tag. Return the tag to school with the gift by Friday, December 9th. We will see that the items get delivered to the families in time for Christmas. Thanks in advance for helping!





Nurse's Notes

by Rachel Sehr, School Nurse

This is the time of year when many families are busy shopping, baking, decorating, and doing all the things involved in the holiday season. One of the big things, especially for kids, is presents. So, while many people may not even realize there is such a thing, December is the perfect time for Safe Toys and Gifts Month. When you are out shopping for all the gifts you'll be giving to spread holiday cheer, here are some things to keep in mind when making your selections.

Buy age appropriate toys. Many toys aimed at older kids contain small pieces which could be swallowed by a younger child. Toys for older children can also contain items that require responsible handling, for example, something an 11 year old could manage but a 6 year old might do something dangerous with.

Be aware of what's not considered safe this season. It's a really good idea to keep an eye on a consumer watchdog site to find out which toys have been recalled recently.

Read the warnings and safety precautions accompanying the toy. Be especially cautious of safety warnings regarding small pieces, fire hazards, adult supervision, sharp edges, fake food gifts, and toxic items.

Buy for durability. With small children, durability is essential. You want to avoid any toy or product that could break into shards, splinters, sharp pieces, or releases anything toxic.

Inspect all things as children open them. If the gift(s) are from someone outside the family, for example a neighbor or schoolmate, it is a good idea to inspect the gift quickly to ensure that it is both safe and you feel comfortable having your child play with it.

Take allergies and food or chemical sensitivities into account when purchasing gifts for any age group. Both children and adults can be allergic or highly sensitive to a range of food gifts, especially items such as nuts, MSG infused food, chocolate, and so forth. Ask them if you don't already know, and avoid purchasing such food items as gifts. Other gift items that can cause allergies or sensitivities include perfumes, scented products, and essential oils. If in doubt, don't purchase a gift that has potential allergy or sensitivity issues.

Take time to explain how to use the toy or gift to a child or to anyone who needs instruction. If your kid is aware of how to use the toy properly and is aware of how easily it can be broken or ruined, then they are alerted to taking care of it in advance.

Ask all gift recipients to be conscious of where they've placed their gifts after opening. A lot of things happen when there is a family gathering and family members and friends might feel tempted to leave opened gifts in

places that are easily accessible to a child. Plus, no one wants to be "laid up" during the holidays because they tripped over a stray toy.

Please enjoy your time with family and friends this holiday season, but always keep safety in mind when doing so.

Around the School...



Second grade students share a Thanksgiving feast.



Kindergarten students enjoy a measuring trip to Hartford Building Center.



A first grade class traveled to the Hartford Senior Citizens Center to sing for the Thanksgiving dinner.

Cold Weather Dress & Information



Now that the weather is turning colder, it's important to have your child dressed for outdoor recess. Children are outdoors until 8:25 each morning. They also have a 15 minute recess before lunch and another 15 minute recess in the afternoon. We are outdoors unless the weather is below 0 in actual temperature or with the wind chill.

If you're missing any cold weather items - check out our lost and found table by the front door.

When school has a late start due to inclement weather, the early morning KARE Supervision Program will not be available. Please make other arrangements for your child on those days. Also, the food service does not serve breakfast on late start days.

If school is dismissed early, please listen to the news stations or check email/phone messages for a message from School Reach. KARE will not be held on those days so we can get the students home in a timely manner.

Thank you!

Reflections

by Mrs. Tyler

At my age, I'm not always surprised anymore...but then I look around and realize that's not exactly true. There are many things around me on a daily basis that surprise me and hold me in awe. For example:



- Pam Graham, my administrative assistant. Have you noticed how calm she can remain even in the most chaotic circumstances? I am in awe that she can hold an ice pack on a child, answer a teacher's question, type the announcements, and answer the phone -seemingly all at the same time and with a smile on her face.
- How quickly kids forgive. Just when you think a child has "burned all of his/her bridges" by doing or saying something mean to classmates, the classmates say, "That's okay. Come and play with us." And off they go to play without a thought to what happened the day before. I wish they could learn that lesson in Congress.
- The good feeling a clean house gives me when I get up in the morning. I don't clean all that often, but I gave the house a thorough cleaning for

Thanksgiving. It makes me wish I cleaned more often, but then reality sets in...and it goes down the priority list.

- My daughter, Melissa. She's home this year after graduating from college in May. She's trying to save up some money while she applies for graduate school to continue on her quest to become a clinical psychologist. She's working 3 part time jobs, and helps her dad on the farm when she has spare minutes. What a responsible adult she has become. It's nice to have her around.
- The enjoyment I get when reading a good book. I don't get the opportunity to read for my own enjoyment all that often, but I took some time off this past Thanksgiving to do just that. I recommend *The Hunger Games* by the way. It's a page turner.
- The ability of the staff to develop relationships with our students. Many of our staff instinctively know when a child needs that extra patience or a listening ear. You just can't teach that from a book.
- The generosity of our community. Unfortunately, we have more tags than ever on our "Giving Tree" this year. Parents and community members have already been taking the tags off the tree to go shopping for kids who wouldn't have a Christmas present otherwise. Thanks to all who are able to help!

Have a restful, wonderful holiday season!

Mrs. Tyler

Help Us Save!

Check out the following ways to help us out!



Box Tops for Education

Just clip, put in a baggie and return to school!
There is also a drop box at Sunshine.



Save Five for Schools

Just wash these milk and juice lids and send to school in a baggie (or Sunshine). Watch for store specials! We need the WHOLE lid!



Labels for Education

This is not just Campbell's Soup Labels anymore! There are many products that qualify. Check it out at labelsforeducation.com. You can send labels to school with your child or drop in box @ Sunshine.

Cell Phones/Ink Cartridges

You can drop off old cell phones or ink cartridges and we can recycle and get money back. There is a box inside our front door.

Lunch Schedules

If you want to come and eat with your child, here are the lunch schedules:

- 1A 11:10 - 11:40 - Mrs. Knuth
- 1B 11:15 - 11:45 - Mrs. Underberg
- 1C 11:20 - 11:50 - Mrs. O'Hara
- 1D 11:25 - 11:55 - Mrs. Graff
- 1E 11:30 - 12:00 - Ms. Henry
- KA 11:40 - 12:10 - Mrs. Wolles
- KB 11:45 - 12:15 - Mrs. Even
- KC 11:50 - 12:20 - Mrs. Cole
- KD 11:55 - 12:25 - Mrs. Weber
- 2A 12:05 - 12:35 - Mrs. Mriden
- 2B 12:10 - 12:40 - Mrs. Spielmann
- 2C 12:15 - 12:45 - Mr. Jacobs

CGI Corner

Make the Seesaw

Balance



Mice weigh one pound. Cats weigh ten pounds. Dogs weigh one hundred pounds. The animals are playing on the seesaw. On one side are four dogs, two cats, and one mouse. On the other side are two dogs, eight cats, and seven mice. Draw the seesaw with the animal on each side. What can the animals do to make the seesaw balance?

Write to help explain your thinking using words, numbers, or pictures.

